

REMARKS

Claims 1-13 are pending in this application. Along with this Response are included Terminal Disclaimers with respect to copending Application No. 10/479,328 and copending Application No. 10/496,253.

Claim Rejections

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102/103

- A. Response to rejection of claims 1, 3-7, and 11-13 on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1-6 of copending Application No. 10/479,328.

In response to the rejection of claims 1, 3-7, and 11-13 on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1-6 of copending Application No. 10/479,328, Applicants have filed a Terminal Disclaimer. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection respectfully is requested.

- B. Response to rejection of claims 1-8 and 11-13 on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting over claims 6-8 of copending Application No. 10/496,253.

In response to the rejection of claims 1-8 and 11-13 on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting over claims 6-8 of copending Application No. 10/496,253, Applicants have filed a Terminal Disclaimer. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection respectfully is requested.

The Examiner has noted that foreign references on page 4 of Applicants' previously filed Information Disclosure Statement were not considered because the documents could not be retrieved. However, these EP applications: EP 12029302, EP 12046249 and EP20757571 correspond to U.S. 20040192931, WO 03/045964, and WO 03/070778 respectively, which were also listed on the Information Disclosure Statement and acknowledged by the Examiner.

Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. Should the Examiner have questions or comments regarding this application or this Response, Applicant's attorney would welcome the opportunity to discuss the case with the Examiner.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge U.S. PTO Deposit Account 08-2336 in the amount of any fee required for consideration of this Response.

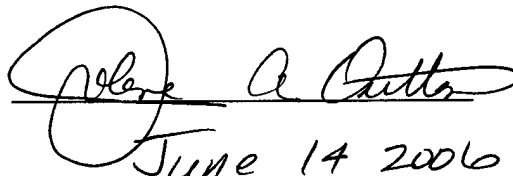
This is intended to be a complete response to the Office Action mailed March 30, 2006.

Respectfully submitted,



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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with sufficient postage thereon with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on June 14, 2006.


June 14 2006
Date of Signature

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